

REMARKS

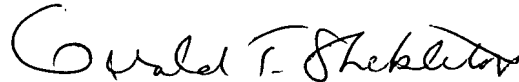
In the above-identified Office Action the Examiner has rejected claims 1-7 and 37-39 as unpatentable over Smyth in view of Laing, stating that it would have been obvious to use the bearing of Laing in the system of Smyth for the purpose of obtaining radiation without any dissipation. Applicant disagrees, noting that it has amended the claims so that it now reflects an isofocal curved collector mirror which is held, at its outer circumference, by a circular mount. Neither Smyth nor Laing has a circular mount. The bearings in Laing could not possibly be used with the structure of Smyth, insofar as it is not conceivable that the support structure of Smyth could accommodate ball bearings in a manner which would adjust the optical properties of the optical concentrator of Smyth according to thermal load, so as to maintain the optical properties. Further, Laing is concerned with maintaining manufacturing tolerances, which is not a concern in either Smyth or the subject invention. It is not the manufacturing tolerances which are desired to be maintained in the subject invention, but rather maintaining the optical properties of the collector mirror when the temperature changes. As noted in Laing, and as apparent from Figures 2 & 3 of Laing, the plastic compliant bearing element permits movement of the bearing in one direction, apparently vertical. No lateral movement is permitted. As now recited in the claims, the support means of the subject invention allows the expansion and contraction of the outer circumference of the collector mirror - this requires lateral movement in response to thermal load – something not possible with Laing. As a result applicant believes that the combination of Smyth and Laing does not teach the subject invention as now claimed and therefore the subject invention as claimed should be patentable.

Applicant hereby requests reconsideration and reexamination thereof.

With the above amendments, Applicant believes this application to be ready for allowance and earnestly solicits an early notice of same. Should the Examiner be of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of the subject application, he is respectfully requested to call the undersigned at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

WELSH & KATZ, LTD.



Gerald T. Shekleton
Registration No. 27,466

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WELSH & KATZ, LTD.
120 South Riverside Plaza
22nd Floor
Chicago, Illinois 60606-3912
Telephone (312) 655-1500
Facsimile (312) 655-1501